

**MINUTES OF THE
COASTAL REGIONAL COMMISSION COUNCIL
August 14, 2013
Richmond Hill City Center, Richmond Hill, GA
10:00 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Jim Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Invocation was provided by Chairman Jimmy Burnsed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jimmy Burnsed, Reggie Loper, Chris Blaine, Sean Register, Allen Brown, David Boland, Walter Gibson, Herb Jones, Shaw McVeigh, William Miller, Jim Thomas, Herb Hill, Matthew Barrow, Julie Martin, Harold Fowler, Mary Hunt, Linda Barker, Chap Bennett, Tom Ratcliffe, Dan Coty, Margaret Evans, Kelly Spratt, Joe Brannen, Robert Long, and Jason Coley.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Donald Lovette, Hugh Hodge, Craig Root, Gwendolyn Davis, William Boyd, Bill Deloughy, Ken Lee, Willis Keene, Russell Keen, Edna Jackson, and Al Scott.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Elliott, Fort Stewart.

GUESTS: Tom Couch, Bulloch County; Leslie Hamrick, Charlie Smith and Bill Gross, Camden Chamber; Frank Parker, Statesboro; Tom Thomson, Chatham/Savannah MPC; Dina McKain, Fort Stewart; David Hainley, Glynn County; Latasha Roberts, Screven County; Jeff Ricketson, Liberty County Consolidated Planning; Bonnie Martin, GA DHS/TSS; and Dr. Jason Christian, UGA.

STAFF PRESENT: Allen Burns, Executive Director; Lena Geiger, Finance Director; Lupita McClenning, Planning and Government Services Director; Don Masisak, Transportation Director; Lauren Robesky, Economic Development Director, and Colletta Harper, Administrative Services Director.

Presentation of Outgoing Chairman Plaque: Chairman Jim Thomas presented the plaque to outgoing Chairman Walter Gibson.

Presentation of Perfect Attendance Pins: Executive Director Burns presented perfect attendance pins to: Walter Gibson, Past Chairman, Bulloch County Commissioner; Chris Blaine, Chatham County Non-Public Representative; Herb Jones, Effingham County Non-Public Representative; and David Boland, Glynn County Non-Public Representative. A framed photo of the ribbon cutting ceremony was presented to Walter Gibson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman Thomas requested approval of the minutes from the June 12th meeting.

Motion: Mayor Margaret Evans
Second: William Miller
Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Non-Public and Ex-Officio Members – *(See attachment 1, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Chairman Thomas referred members to the blue handout. A motion was made to approve the Non-Public appointments as listed.

Motion: Chairman Jimmy Burnsed
Second: Commissioner Reggie Loper
Vote: Unanimous

A motion was made to approve the Ex-Officio appointments as listed.

Motion: Mayor Margaret Evans
Second: Dan Coty
Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Budget & Finance Committee – *(See attachment 2, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Chairman Thomas referred members to the yellow handout. A motion was made to approve the Budget & Finance Committee as listed.

Motion: Commissioner Reggie Loper
Second: Dan Coty
Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Appointments/Reappointments to the EB-5 Regional Center Board of Directors: *(See Attachment 3, attached herein and made a part of these minutes)* Chairman Thomas referred members to the salmon handout. A motion was made to approve the Appointments/Reappointments as listed for the Class 2 (2-year term).

Motion: Mayor Margaret Evans
Second: Commissioner Walter Gibson
Vote: Unanimous

A motion was made to approve the Reappointments as listed for the Class 3 (1-year term).

Motion: Commissioner Julie Martin
Second: Linda Barker
Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Appointment of Ethics Committee: *(See Attachment 4, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Chairman Thomas referred members to the tan handout. A motion was made to approve the Ethics Committee as listed.

Motion: Mayor Margaret Evans
Second: William Miller
Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Appointment/Reappointment to CADD Board – *(See Attachment 5, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* A motion was made to appoint James Rogers (Liberty County) and reappoint Dell Keith (Bryan County) to the CADD Board of Directors.

Motion: Chairman Jimmy Burnsed
Second: Linda Barker
Vote: Unanimous

PRESENTATIONS

Georgia Hurricane Hazard Characterization Study – *(See Attachment 6, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Dr. Jason Christian, College of Engineering, UGA, provided a PowerPoint presentation on The Future for Hurricane Hazard and Vulnerability Analysis in Georgia. The NSF Research Program in Science, Engineering and Education (SEES) is looking to advance the understanding of (1) the processes of specific natural & technological hazards and their interactions; (2) causes, interdependences, and cumulative effects of hazard components; and improve capabilities for forecasting & mitigating hazard impacts (increase sustainability). Governor Deal signed an Executive Order on January 14, 2013 to establish a “Georgia Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan (GDRRP)”, to be developed by GEMA and DNR with input from the departments of: Economic Development, Public Health, Human Services, Community Affairs, and

Transportation. Dr. Christian hopes to meet with individual local governments to obtain information they already have available and build his research from there. A brief Q & A followed the presentation. Executive Director Burns commented that it is good to have all the state departments to work on the GDRRP. The CRC finally has a written agreement with GEMA on how our buses can be used for evacuations.

Approval of Resolution to Transmit Regional Work Program Update and Report of Accomplishments to DCA – (See Attachment 7, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.) Ms. Lupita McClenning, Planning Director, referred members to the lavender handout and briefly explained the work program updates and the report of accomplishments. Once DCA has reviewed and commented, this item will be brought back to the Council for their final approval. After a brief Q & A, a motion was made to approve the Resolution to transmit the Regional Work Program Update and Report of Accomplishments to DCA.

Motion: Chairman Jimmy Burnsed

Second: David Boland

Vote: Unanimous

Digital Implementation Tool of the Regional Plan: Ms. Lupita McClenning, Planning Director, stated that a Quality Growth Effectiveness Assessment Survey had been sent in January to all local governments as an Evaluation and Monitoring tool to measure performance standards as they relate to ongoing implementation and effectiveness of the Coastal Georgia Regional Plan. Once all the surveys have been completed, they will be integrated with a web-based interface to assist in tracking and analyzing relevant indicators related to Topics of Regional Importance. Once completed, communities will be able to go online and look at their own community's infrastructure inventory. The next phase of the tool includes GIS mapping capabilities, reporting provisions, document storage and retrieval (i.e, ordinances and plans).

Other Planning Updates:

- Nominations are now being accepted for the next LSEGA class. If you want to nominate a candidate to participate please see her or David Boland.
- Received a NADO Innovation Award for the Practicum series. These series are proposed via audio-web conferencing in the future.
- The Georgia American Planning Association (GAPA) Annual Conference will be held October 9-11 on Jekyll Island.
- Regional Broadband Digital Economy Plan kicks off in September.

Budget Recap: Ms. Lena Geiger, Finance Director stated that it was previously reported that there would be a \$366,000 deficit with transportation due to the under utilization of DHS funds; however, they were able to identify trips that should have been charged to DHS, which was corrected and decreased the deficit, and only \$204,000 is needed from the general reserves. This leaves \$1.2 million in the general reserve balance.

Several transportation vehicles have been surplused, which takes them off the insurance. Possible plans for future savings include looking at smaller buses/vans as replacements; possibly utilizing fixed routes or reduced levels of service; get a better handle on scheduling trips; looking at getting insurance on the buses through the state.

Executive Director Burns added that with different funding sources, you have to try and balance them – none of the funding agencies want to see this program fail. We will probably have reduction in services, limit out of county trips. DOT still will not agree to pay for the conversion of buses to propane, so we can't limit those costs. Don and Lena have done a great job to get the deficit down from what it was.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update on GARC – None at this time.

DRI Reports: None.

Project Status Reports - *(See Attachments 8, 9, 10 and 11 attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*
If anyone has any questions, please see staff after the meeting.

CADDA Report: No questions were raised regarding the CADDA report. *(See Attachment 12, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Dionne Lovett, Aging Services Director, was elected to the Board of the Georgia Gerontology Society and was being inducted into office today.
- Grand opening of new building was held at the June meeting. The renovations for the Transportation Department through ARRA funds (\$300,000) are currently underway and should be finished by the end of August. Many thanks to McIntosh County for stepping up with an intergovernmental agreement and providing the upfront monies for this renovation project; ARRA funds are provided after the project is completed.
- Sixteen vans are also being purchased through ARRA funds, bringing the total of ARRA funds received to \$1 million.
- Approximately 350 seniors participated in the Elder Abuse Walk-a-Thon at the Glynn Place Mall in Brunswick. Looking at the possibility of another location next year to expand this event throughout the region.
- Signed an agreement with GEMA for use of our buses for the evacuation of non-ambulatory citizens. There are multiple lists, working on consolidating them and developing mapping to locate them.
- LSEGA allows one slot for a CRC Council member and the Council has a standing commitment to provide \$500 towards the tuition fee. Anyone interested in participating should see me or Lupita.
- The change from one transportation service provider to another was a fairly smooth transition. As always, if you hear of any problems, please let Don or me know.
- Aging Services Advisory Council is working on state priorities. If you have any interests that you would like voiced, please see me, Dionne, or your appointee to the Advisory Council.
- Received two NADO Innovation Awards on our Practicum Series and the Adaptive Reuse of State Surplus Property.
- Audit starts at the end of this month with the same folks. Looking forward to a good outcome and will ask them to take a closer look at transportation to see if there are any ways that we can improve.

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- There is a Broadband Gaps study being conducted on a regional basis; we are in the 2nd tier phase. Will be including providers in the process of looking at how it can be expanded.
- Work has begun on the Annual Report.
- Our new website is up; however, we are still working on it. Please check out and provide comments.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m., with lunch following.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 11, 2013, at the Richmond Hill City Center at 10:00 a.m.**